

**Rural Veterans Healthcare Transportation Program Discretionary Grant
(Special Transportation Fund) Award Recommendation**

Region	Applicant/ Project	Project Type	Recommended Award
2A	Sunset Empire Transportation District <i>Veterans Enhanced Transportation Project: Creates access opportunities for veterans who use personal mobility devices to out of district medical destinations that are at parity with what is presently available to their ambulatory peers.</i>	Purchased Services	\$20,000.00
2B	Confederated Tribes of the Siletz Reservation <i>Tribal Veterans Healthcare Access Program: Provides a Community Health Coordinator to offer veterans coordination and mobility management service for 135 Tribal veterans. Project will also purchase bus (and other) mobility services for veteran's healthcare access.</i>	Operations	\$20,000.00
3	Coos County Area Transportation District <i>Go Vets Program: Supports veteran centered routing and frequency improvements connecting SW Oregon Veterans Outreach and multiple partners with veterans and/or healthcare missions. Provides outreach and services to raise awareness and comfort/confidence of veterans using the system.</i>	Operations	\$50,000.00
3	Umpqua Public Transportation District <i>North Douglas County Veterans Medical Transportation Connector: Creates veteran centered bedroom community connections to the VA facility in Roseburg, Oregon. Partnerships with South Lane Wheels and North Douglas County Betterment (a veterans services organization) support delivery of this project.</i>	Operations	\$50,000.00
4	Jefferson County <i>Rural Veterans On-Demand Transit: Develops healthcare transit for veterans. Removes the barriers of geography and accessibility that have traditionally characterized providers in the area. Expands upon a 2013 pilot effort by Cascades East Transit.</i>	Operations	\$20,000.00
5	Umatilla County <i>Curbside Transportation for Veterans: Improves outreach, access, and availability of healthcare access services to veterans in Hermiston, Echo, Stanfield, and Umatilla, Oregon. Engages Veterans Services Officers to promote awareness of service.</i>	Purchased Service	\$20,000.00
5	Union County <i>Veterans Rides to Wellness: Provides fare free, demand responsive access to healthcare for veterans in Union County – including out of market specialists – on schedules that conform to the rider's needs. Engages local Veterans Services Officer to promote awareness of service.</i>	Purchased Service	\$50,000.00

TOTAL RECOMMENDED AWARDS: \$230,000.00

PLEASE NOTE: The partnership with Oregon Department of Veterans Affairs contains up to \$500,000 in Oregon Lottery fund resources to launch the Rural Veterans Healthcare Transportation Program. PTD has been advised that the COVID-19 related shut down of restaurants and bars/lounges is likely to impact Oregon Lottery receipts from on-premise Keno and video gaming machines. The impact (if any) on this resources is unknown at the time of this recommendation.

In addition to the uncertainty of the underwriting, COVID-19 had a poorly timed impact on this solicitation. Disproportionate efforts to respond to and recover from the global pandemic had a material effect on the administrative capacity of agencies that may have otherwise been applicants.

For the reasons cited above, it is the recommendation of the project scoring and selection committee to offer a second round of project solicitation in early August (after fiscal clarity has been realized and agencies begin coming back online).